out the country. At the end of the Training a test is conducted and successful candidates are awarded National Trade Certificate (NTC). There have been problems in appointment of these trainees against vacancies in Public Sector Undertakings.

SEMFEX: The Director General Resettlement and the Industrial Development and the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) have jointly launched a scheme of self-employment for ex-servicemen (SEMFEX) w.e.f. 1-4-87. The aim of the scheme is to encourage and assist ex-servicemen, disabled service personnel and widows of ex-servicemen to set up their own self-employment ventures. The selection, training, consultancy service and writing of project report will form one complete package. Self-employment projects upto Rs. 12 lakhs are covered under the scheme. The promotor's contribution will be 10 per cent of the project cost. Soft seed capital assistance upto 15% of the project cost. would be provided at a nominal interest rate of 1 per cent p.a. Balance 75 per cent of the project cost would be financed as term loan by State Financial Corporations/Commercial Banks under the re-finance scheme of IDBI The procedures in this regard have been recently simplified

(b) Vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen have not been utilized fully.

(c) The Rajya and Zila Sainik Boards are State Government Departments/Organisations. The Central Government bears 50% of the cost of the maintenance of Rajya/Zila Sainik Boards. A Committee for Revitalisation of the Sainik Board Organisation in India recommended in 1981 various measures to revitalise the Rajya/Sainik Boards. These recommendations were sent to the State Governments for adoption The [illegible] has been urging

sation. During the past three years, a number of recommendations have been implemented by many State Governments. These include setting up of 31 Zila Sainik Boards, provision of staff, telephone and transport.

(d) Implementation of the various schemes is reviewed from time to time in consultation with the concerned departments and State Governments. Based on such reviews, corrective measures are adopted to ensure smooth and efficient implementation of the schemes. One of the major thrust areas for rehabilitation of ex-servicemen is the scheme for job reservation in Government where the following instructions have been issued to ensure greater utilisation of reserved vacancies:

(i) Prior intimation of vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen to the DGR and the Rajya/Zila Sainik Boards (three months in advance) is to be given by the concerned Ministries and PSUs;

(ii) DGR will be given 30 clear days for confirmation regarding non-availability of suitable ex-servicemen for a specific post before dereservation of a reserved post is done;

(iii) Pooling up of vacancies at the national/zonal level in respect of vacancies arising at local level;

(iv) Carry forward of reserved vacancies for one year; and

(v) Exclusive examination for ex-servicemen for various posts in the Railways.

State Governments have also been requested to adopt these and closely monitor the utilisation of reserved vacancies.

Inferior quality of West German submarines

1999 SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be

tered into a deal with a West German firm to purchase submarines,

(b) if so, what is the number of submarines delivered by the said firm, so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that some senior officials of the Navy have declared these submarines as being inferior to its competitors, specially the Swedish designed submarines; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to cancel further orders with the German firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir, a contract had been entered into with M/s HDW of F.R.G.

(b) Two; as contracted.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No further orders for the supply of submarines are pending with M/s HDW.

Appointments in Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Mahendragiri

2000. SHRI M VINCENT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that interview for appointment of staff in the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre at Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu was conducted in Kerala and after a lapse of some months, the recruited persons were transferred to the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre at Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the number of times when such recruitments were made; and

(c) what is the number of persons from Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Recruitment test Facility in the Liquid Propulsion test facility (LPTF) Unit of the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre of Indian Space Research Organisation/Department of Space at Mahendragiri, near Nagercoil Tamil Nadu, are made strictly in accordance with the general recruitment policy followed by the Department in all its Centres/Units According to this policy appointments to posts with a scale of pay of Rs. 1350—2200 and below are made through local Employment Exchange. Posts above Rs 1350—2200 but below Rs. 2200—4000 are filled up by Advertisements through local or regional new-papers. Recruitment to Group 'A' posts (Rs. 2200—4000 and above) alone are made on all-India basis. A copy of the advertisement is also sent to the Employment Exchanges concerned and candidates sponsored by them are considered alongwith the candidates who apply in response to the Advertisements

In accordance with the above procedure, vacancies required to be filled up at the Mahendragiri Unit of LPSC near Nagercoil, through the local Employment Exchange, have been filled up only by candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchange, at Nagercoil. The only exception was in respect of a post of Laboratory Assistant (Photography) which had to be advertised due to non-availability of suitable candidate from the local Employment Exchange. In this case, the interview/trade test was conducted at Vahamala (LPSC Headquarters) since requisite trade test facilities are not